

## **JOPPA/JOPPATOWNE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Meeting Number 109 (02-11)

February 7, 2011

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Joppatowne High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting Number 109 was called to order at 7:04 P.M. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Members present were Paula Mullis, JoAnn M. Macdonald, Betty Byrne, Ron Sollod, Vincent Rabenau, John Henkel, James B. Lyons, III, Yvonne Baldwin and Doris Carey. Chairperson Mullis thanked everyone for being there and announced that she would like to see a Business Directory made for the businesses located in and around the area. She feels that if the community knows about the businesses in the area, they will support them. She introduced Sheriff Jesse Bane and Councilman Dion Guthrie. James B. Lyons, III moved and Vincent Rabenau seconded the approval of the minutes for January 2011.

### **Sheriff's Office/Community Policing Report**

Deputy Crossley of the Harford County Sheriff's Office stated that he did not have statistics for the month of January. He stated that the Harford County Sheriff's Office is again offering residents the opportunity to attend the Annual Citizen's Police Academy. It is a 15-week program designed to provide residents with a better understanding of the Sheriff's Office and its operations and to foster a partnership between the Sheriff's Office and the communities it serves. This year's academy, which is free of charge, will be held every Tuesday evening beginning March 1, 2011 through June 9, 2011. It is open to Harford County residents 18 years of age and over. The class is open to the public. Enrollment is limited to 25 students. The closing date for applications will be February 25, 2011. A community member inquired about a recent robo call to Joppatowne citizens concerning a lost child. Sheriff Bane explained that the child was new to the area and was a runaway. However, the child was found the same evening. Sheriff Bane stated that the Southern Precinct is on schedule to open in December 2011. He said the facility can be accessed by the community. It is a real plus for the Joppatowne/Edgewood area. When the building is opened, interested community members will be invited to tour the facility. Paula Mullis thanked Deputy Crossley and Sheriff Bane for their presentation.

### **Special Presentation by COL Orlando Ortiz, Garrison Commander, APG**

Chairperson Mullis introduced Councilman Dion Guthrie who introduced Col Ortiz to the community.

Col Ortiz stated that the mission of BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) is to manage, operate and provide Aberdeen Proving Ground the installation capabilities, services, and quality of life for soldiers, families, and civilians at a level commensurate with their service. Col Ortiz introduced Col Andy Nelson who stated extraordinary things are happening at Aberdeen Proving Ground. BRAC has arrived and significant changes are being experienced. He said that even though most of the focus is on the Aberdeen side of the peninsula, a lot is changing on the Edgewood side of APG. To date, over 3,800 BRAC positions have transferred to the area. There are 7,700 more arriving in the area. Incoming organizations such as Team C4ISR (Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) from Forts Monmouth, Belvoir, and Redstone Arsenal, have completed phase 1 on the Aberdeen area campus. The US Army Test and Evaluation Command from Alexandria, VA brings its headquarters to the Proving Ground. Construction projects are ongoing. Col Ortiz mentioned that organizations such as the US Army Ordnance Center and Schools will be departing to Ft. Lee, VA and the US Army Environmental Command will depart to Ft. Sam Houston, TX. The last battalion of soldiers is expected to leave APG this summer. The current status of Chemical and Biological Defense is that 350 spaces will house headquarters and defense workers. Construction at APG for other projects will not be completed before 2013. A question was asked about the Waste to Energy project at Edgewood. Col Ortiz stated that the Waste to Energy project is designed to replace the facility that is already at Edgewood. The Army would like to see the project go forth. The project is a work in progress. The Army would like the new project to be in action by 2016. Col Ortiz and Col Nelson also spoke about some environmental success stories. The oldest standing lighthouse in Maryland is on Pooles Island. The Army will relight the lighthouse soon. They said that it is estimated that 6,000 to 10,000 bald eagles use APG each year. The eagle population is flourishing. Col Ortiz and Col Nelson were thanked for their extensive presentation.

**Dianna Guthrie** gave a report on the Joppa/Edgewood Independence Day Parade which will be held on July 2, 2011. Dianne, chair of the parade committee, stated that it takes work as well as money to have the parade for the community. Her committee has discussed the carnival which will be held in Joppatowne, from May 23—30, to raise money for the parade. Each band in the parade will receive

\$600.00. This year the committee is discussing giving out scholarships. There will be a presale of tickets in order for families to save money. Instead of paying \$20 for a ticket to ride all day, the presale price will be \$12. Many volunteers will be needed for the carnival as well as the parade. Dianne stated that the parade committee has the services of an accountant and an attorney. The committee has By-Laws and prepares minutes and a treasury report for each meeting. If the community has questions or would like to volunteer at the carnival or parade, call Dianna at 410-679-9399 or 410-952-7090.

### **Councilman Dion Guthrie.**

Councilman Guthrie was thanked by the chair for contacting Col Ortiz to make the presentation tonight. The councilman stressed that he is still pressing for a new road to get to the incinerator (Waste to Energy facility). The proposed new road would exit MD 24 on the south side of the railroad track (approaching APG-EA Gate) and run parallel to the railroad track to the incinerator. The new incinerator will be three and a half times the present one, and about 80 more trucks will be traveling on roads through the neighborhood. The cost will be approximately \$27 million - \$28 million to put in a new road. In response to the invitation to citizens to attend the Annual Citizens Police Academy, Dion said he attended the academy and it was a great experience. He highly recommended it. He said that the Master Plan will have its formal kick-off at HCC. Presentations will be made around the county. Everyone is encouraged to attend a presentation. Chairperson Mullis thanked Councilman Guthrie for his remarks.

### **Community Updates from Community Council Members and Community.**

Many community members introduced themselves and talked briefly about their businesses. They were encouraged to share business cards so that a directory can be started in the future.

James Lyons, III encouraged everyone to check their smoke detectors.

Ron Sollod reported that Duracell is running a special project wherein citizens can purchase Duracell batteries and Duracell will make donations to local fire companies. To participate, log on to [duracell.com](http://duracell.com).

John Henkel said that if any local business would like to sponsor a Parks and Recreation team, let him know.

Betty Byrne discussed the bingo fundraiser that will be held at the Joppa/Magnolia fire hall.

Vincent Rabenau said he wants smart government.

Paula Mullis said she is glad to see more community members at the council meeting and asked those present to encourage others to come as well. She would like to see community members use local

businesses. Paula would also like community members to give her suggestions on the type of presentations they would like at council meetings.

JoAnn Macdonald stated that she is excited to be a member of the council.

Yvonne Baldwin said she is new to the council and look forward to serving the community.

Doris Carey mentioned that there has been some interest concerning residence halls at Harford Community College. Some members of the HCC Board of Trustees have volunteered to visit community colleges that have on-campus housing and report what they find to determine whether or not this is something that will be useful for the HCC students.

Ron Sollod motioned and John Henkel seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

*Minutes by Doris Carey*